

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters



'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe'

The words of Thomas are spoken on that first Easter Sunday. He was not present when Jesus, Risen from the dead, appeared to the other disciples in the Upper Room.

Where was he? The Gospels do not say, but he was not present in the assembly of the faithful. That Sunday he had something else to do.

Perhaps he was at a family gathering, or a birthday party, or a ball game, or a BBQ, or a graduation, or maybe he slept in! Wherever he was, he was not present when Jesus came and stood in the midst of the other disciples.

We have the joy and privilege to gather every Sunday and experience the presence of the Risen Christ in our midst.

With the frenetic pace at which our life is lived, especially here in the north east, it is not always easy to 'find time' to come to church every Sunday.

But there will never be enough time. There will always be something else to do, or somewhere else to be. We are free, to come or not to come, to be present or not.

God does not discriminate against us if we choose not to come. But we are the ones who lose out when we are not here.

Every Sunday is an experience of Easter, of the Resurrection; it is an encounter with the Risen Christ.

This Sunday, the Second Sunday of Easter, is known as Divine Mercy Sunday. We will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 2:30pm, followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

We can touch the wounds of Christ in our liturgy today, and also at the Divine Mercy Chaplet. It is in the wounds of Christ that we find evidence of his Resurrection.

I wish all of you and your families a very Happy Easter. Christ is Risen! He is Truly Risen, Alleluia!

Fr. Sean